



Wastewater and Ebola

For Sewer and Wastewater Treatment Professionals

10/28/2014

Safe handling of possibly Ebola-contaminated wastewater when serving a medical facility

The Ebola virus is rapidly destroyed by exposure to disinfectants, sewage, and the wastewater treatment process. These are recommendations for employees who may work at a sewer-collection system near a facility that is treating a suspected or confirmed Ebola patient.

We recommend that you:

1. Ensure all medical facilities you serve have your 24/7 call number for utility notification purposes.
2. Contact the medical facility to learn about the disposal methods they'll be using.
3. Review your bloodborne/waterborne pathogen program with your employees and contact [Washington State Department of Labor and Industries](#) if you have questions.
4. If notified, reschedule sewer collection work in the areas downstream of the medical facility for the duration of the patient treatment period.
5. If you need information on the patient's prior locations, contact your local health jurisdiction.
6. Share the recommended guidance for medical professionals and clinics with your medical community.
7. Periodically check the [Washington Department of Health webpage](#) for updated information.